

PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 42

London: April 3, 1937

2d.

Spanish Soldiers' Example— of Peace!

DECLARE THEIR OWN ARMISTICE

Make Your Refusal Clear!

From Our Special Correspondent

CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA

A WAR correspondent on the staff of *Solidaridad Obrera* writes from the Madrid front that he has just visited the trenches in the suburb from which was evacuated a group of refugee children whose photograph appeared in your columns recently.

He was shown the insurgents' machine-gun nests, a hundred yards away, and told that, a few days before, the soldiers of the

and women in every land refused the bloody sacrifice, and made their refusal ring loud and clear, they would head such a revolt as the most ruthless dictator should not crush.

And I am equally sure that those same military dictators are only holding on by their teeth and that it does not need a superhuman effort to shake them off.

Such incidents as that related vindicate the opinion; and, if every protest which finds expression were but recorded and broadcast as this has been the growing murmur of the cannon-fodder would before long silence the very thunder of the guns.

What do I suggest then? Well, in wireless language, listen-in on all wave-lengths, amplify, and broadcast through all available microphones.

But, if the "secret police" find your unlicensed wireless set, you must be prepared to pay the forfeit. Well—Master did!

EVADING THE ISSUE

A law was recently passed in Spain rendering every able-bodied man below the age of 45 liable to be called up periodically as often as his local government required for such service as digging trenches or constructing fortifications.

An acquaintance of mine, who claims to be a pacifist, was called up under this law recently. He refused service on the ground that he is managing a business which would suffer in his absence. But he did not hesitate to pay for a substitute to replace him, and he does not seem to regard this as evading the issue.

One is left wondering what he will do if he is called up for service in the field, as he may be any day.

Small parcels of literature reach me occasionally, in answer to my appeal, and are welcomed by the wounded. By far the most popular journal with all the English-speaking patients, whether they hail from Bermondsey, Glasgow, Cyprus, New York, or the Isle of Saints, is the weekly edition of the *Manchester Guardian*, which is sent to me personally. Any of your readers who takes the paper and cares to pass it on will be doing a greater service than he knows to these pain-racked exiles.

AS REPUBLICANS SEE IT

I wonder if people at home realize the point of view of all Spanish Republicans and their foreign allies with regard to this war. Briefly it is this.

England and France have done their best to stifle the democratic spirit in Spain by refusing to supply its legitimate government with

The P.P.U. "In Town Tonight"

HERMAN SMIT, nineteen-year-old Dutchman, spending Easter in England, broadcast last Saturday in the "In Town Tonight" feature and mentioned as one of the objects of his visit his desire to learn more about the Peace Pledge Union.

It is interesting to note that his reference to the P.P.U. was known in advance and permitted by the BBC.

Herman Smit is a member of Kerken Vrede (Church and Peace, the organization of which the Rev. J. B. Th. Hugenholz is secretary). He is the seventeenth Dutch member of the P.P.U.

R.M.H.

Effort to Remove The "Kick" from Preparation for War

Special Interview by PEACE NEWS

DESCRIBING himself as a "practical pacifist, who is out to stop war," Mr. R. R. Stokes, Managing Director of Ransomes and Rapier, Ltd., one of the biggest engineering concerns in the country, told a PEACE NEWS reporter how the firm tried to give a new lead in the industrial world by offering to make shells for the Government without profit, and how, to his great disappointment, the offer had been rejected.

"We wanted to set some sort of example by removing the commercial kick out of preparation for war," he said. "If there were no profits to be made it would alter the minds of a great number of industrialists and bankers toward those preparations."

ENGINEERING FIRM'S GESTURE

MR. STOKES explained that when the Government approached them on the question of making shells, the directors considered the proposal at great length, and finally agreed to do so in the national interest on a no-profit basis provided the Government agreed to supply the machinery, which is usual.

They could not make munitions in their existing buildings, he went on, and they intended to include the cost in the quoted price and to erect a building which would be uneconomic as a shell factory only, but would be of use to them in peace time. The Government had said that a factory at Ipswich would be a target for enemy bombers, but what was the use of erecting a shell factory in Scotland or some out-of-the-way place which as soon as peace was declared would be shut down and become another distressed area?

All through his talk Mr. Stokes stressed the fact that the making of shells was a temporary activity undertaken in self-defence, and not, as some might think, a grand opportunity for profit-making.

"The making of shells is anathema to me," he declared. "I told my workpeople that they must not expect higher wages for making munitions, and they cheered this statement."

He added that he was not surprised when the Government declined to contribute to the building and did not press the matter. It had previously been stated before the Select Committee on Estimates that the addition to be made for oncosts might vary between extremes of 20 percent to as much as 1,200 percent.

Asked about this, Mr. Stokes stated that there was no trick in their offer.

They met in "No-man's-land," exchanged newspapers and cigarettes, and joined in heartily cursing the war.

Two "enemies," who came from the same village in Andalusia, and had worked together in the Rio Tinto copper-mines, fell upon each other's necks. Now what mysterious power is it that can make us fall upon each other's bayonets?

Myself I am convinced that, if a handful of courageous men

Any excess they might find themselves with they would hand back.

He was told, apparently with no little alarm, that there was no provision made in the War Department for receiving money back!

"Very well, then," he had replied. "I can give it to the Chancellor of the Exchequer as conscience money!"

When the matter was discussed in the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Tom Johnston asked for an inquiry by a committee of the House, and charges of profiteering and insufficient precautions being taken to prevent this were made by the opposition back benches.

Sir Thomas Inskip said that no firm offer had been made by Ransomes and Rapier's to the War Office. Mr. Johnston wished to contradict this statement, and Sir Thomas offered to accompany him to the War Office where they could inspect the correspondence together. Mr. Johnston accepted this and it is understood that the joint visit will be made shortly.

(Continued on page 11, columns 1 and 2)

the arms necessary to defend its existence and by "allowing" its "rebels" to be so supplied. And retribution will overtake both countries when they in turn have to extinguish the flames of fascism.

Useless to remind them that you cannot put out a fire by throwing more fuel upon it. Their answer to pacifism may be summed up in two phrases uttered by their orators: "It is better to die on your feet than live on your knees," and "It is better to be the widow of a hero than the wife of a coward."

"PEACE NEWS" IN SPAIN

The following is a translation of a letter received from the master of a child refugee colony in acknowledgment of a copy of PEACE NEWS publishing a photograph of some of his charges:—

"Dear Friend—May this find you in good health. It is to tell you that I have received your paper and am very grateful for it, as well as for your work on behalf of the children.

"The Pioneers of Radio No. 9 (Madrid) send you their thanks and encourage you to carry to a triumphant conclusion your campaign for the ideals of peace, justice and liberty, which we all desire."

During the last two or three weeks information has come to the Friends Service Council, both from Barcelona and Malaga, proving the impartiality of the help given by the Council's representatives alike to children whose parents are adherents of the Government and of the Nationalist parties.

Reflections and Comments

SPAIN'S STORY OF BLOODSHED

by

LORD PONSONBY

WE are too close to the constant rapid changes going on round us to appreciate their real significance. Modern invention is so active that even in the details of our domestic life we now have at hand many appliances and labour-saving conveniences quite unknown to the previous generation.

Trains and telegraphy, to which we have become thoroughly accustomed, supplemented now by more rapid locomotion on land and in the air, together with broadcasting, have drawn nations more closely to one another and made the world smaller.

The result of all this is that our increased immediate knowledge of world events has completely altered our sense of proportion and our estimate of values.

A comparatively-speaking detailed knowledge of what is going on in countries hitherto regarded as remote makes us feel competent to form judgments and express opinions on events of which in former times we should have heard little or nothing till long after they had happened.

THIS is well illustrated by the Spanish revolution which is now devastating that beautiful country and taking a tragic toll of the deaths, maiming, and torture not only of the belligerents but of non-combatant men, women, and children.

We receive daily news from each of the opposing forces of the events of yesterday. We hear the reports of eye-witnesses who were in Spain a day or two ago and we hear press extracts of opinions in foreign countries of each day's happenings. We get in fact a fuller picture of the course of the civil war than those on the spot who are fighting in it.

We know far more about it than our ancestors knew of the French Revolution, the American Civil War, or the War of Liberation in Italy of which they were contemporaries, but the news of which only percolated through very gradually and reached them days and weeks after the salient events had happened.

There is a tendency therefore to believe that Spain is passing through a quite unprecedented tragedy because fascism and communism are new growths. Whereas they are only new names for the conflicting opinions which have disturbed the peace of Spain throughout the centuries. Yet many people talk as if civil war and revolution in Spain were a new phenomenon.

A CURSORY glance at Spanish history shows a surprising similarity not only in the antagonisms of political ideas but in the desperate methods of the continual struggles which have torn Spain asunder and set Spaniard against Spaniard.

We need not go back to the sixteenth century when Cortes, the conqueror of Mexico, nearly failed in his astonishing enterprise, not because of the hordes of Indians arrayed against him but because of the treachery of his own fellow-countrymen in organizing expeditions for stabbing him in the back.

The same curious combinations may be found throughout their history: brilliant enterprise balanced by treachery, inconceivable valour degraded by hideous cruelty, marvellous endurance spoilt by sudden surrender, and fratricidal conflict seemingly preferred to cooperation against a common foe.

But let us take a glance at the last hundred years in order to show that there is nothing new in what is passing in Spain except the more rapid means of exterminating human life which science has given to other nations as well as to them.

ON the return of Ferdinand and VII in 1814 in a triumphal

journey there were high hopes of the consolidation of some form of parliamentary government.

But it was not long before absolutism gained the predominant power. The constitution and the cortes were suppressed, liberals were put to death, and a reign of terror swept over the country.

By 1820 the conspiracy of the radicals produced civil war. The support for all forms of despotism by the Holy Alliance led to further trouble.

The Spaniards were not permitted to work out their own salvation for themselves. There was intervention on the part of France, and Ferdinand, who had been captive at Cadiz, was released and reinstated.

But for several years there was a horrible system of persecution and religious fanaticism. When Ferdinand died in 1833 there was the stormy regency of Queen Cristina, the subsequent regency of Espartero, the unfortunate reign of Isabella II, and the dominance of Marshal Narvaez, a successful general.

In the short reign of Armadeo there was conflict between monarchists and republicans. A republic was declared in 1873 under the dictatorship of Castellar. This was followed by the dictatorship of Marshal Serrano who had to fight Carlists on one side and republicans on the other.

ALPHONSO XII became king in 1875. There was an attempt on his life more than once.

Internal warfare continued with wholesale executions. Maria Cristina became regent in 1886. War with America resulted in the loss to Spain of Cuba and the Philippines. At the opening of this century the young King Alphonso XIII was crowned.

He had a chance, being born a king and therefore sentimentally popular, to establish a constitutional regime. But, as we know, yet another dictator, Primo de Rivera, gained ascendancy and with the usual turmoil and conflict a republic was subsequently declared.

Casting one's eye over the hundred years or so one can hardly detach one decade of calm and peace. Weak, incompetent, or cruel monarchs, a succession of dictator generals. Liberals, subsequently referred to as radicals, then as republicans, then as social democrats, now as socialists and communists fighting for their lives and only gaining power to be crushed again.

It is a shocking story and the desperate cruelties and the sacking and devastation of towns the names of which are so familiar to us just now make almost any page of this past history read as if it were a column of news from Spain today. How long will it take this unfortunate people to learn that force and violence can achieve nothing?

In the meanwhile help for the unfortunate sufferers in Spain is badly needed.

TO ANGLICAN CLERGY AND LAY PEOPLE

DON'T FORGET THE GREAT MEETING

AT THE CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER

This Monday, April 5, at 7.30 p.m.

Speakers:

The Rev. Canon H. R. L. ("Dick") SHEPPARD

The Rev. Father ANDREW, S.D.C.

The Rev. Canon STUART D. MORRIS

The Ven. ARCHDEACON OF STOKE

The Rev. C. PAUL GLIDDON

The following Resolution will be moved:—
"That this meeting of clergy and laity of the Church of England declares its passionate conviction that Jesus Christ would refuse in any cause whatever to employ the methods of modern war. It denies that the disciples of Christ ought ever to employ means their Master would not sanction. It therefore deplores the attempts made at the Church Assembly to reconcile the teaching of Christ with the practice of war, and urges all members of the Church to maintain that war is essentially evil and as such incapable of advancing the kingship of Christ."

After the Meeting

A PROCESSION OF CLERGY AND LAITY

will carry the Resolution to Lambeth Palace

Spanish Protest at Militarization of Youth

"DEGENERACY OF THE INSTINCT WE WANT TO PRESERVE"

From Our Own Correspondent

CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA.

March 17.

FRAGUA SOCIAL publishes illustrations of Spanish children being taught the use of the rifle and machine-gun.

It says these children are called "Pioneers," and compares them with Franco's "Arrows" and Mussolini's "Balillas." In a vigorously worded protest it goes on to say:

"Children and armaments are mutually repellent expressions in social terminology. Our children must not be like ourselves: they have no right to know how to kill. We are not forming a society of bullies. Does it not make you weep to see uniformed children marching through the streets to the tap of drums and sharp military commands?

"If all that is because they need men for the front, why don't they dig out the millions of men who are in hiding? Surely our cowardice and lack of understanding will not carry us to the length (of sending children to the front)!"

AFTER THE WAR. . .

"Let us teach children the new moral laws which are to establish harmony among men when we found a régime worthy of our destiny at the end of the war, but let us never teach them how to handle arms, since this implies the degeneracy of the very instinct we want to preserve."

It is a pleasure to be able to record that there is no sign of militarism in the only troop of Pioneers I have met. I learn, nevertheless, from Madrid refugees that children were being trained in arms from the age of fourteen though they were not sent to the front.

PLAN FOR PEACE

"This atrocious war which ravages Spain, whatever may be the issue of it, will have succeeded in destroying the youthful, healthy, and active elements of the Spanish people! It will have succeeded in destroying the magnificent works of art that the human spirit has conceived in this wonderful country!"

So writes Marcel Pichon, general secretary of the Ligue Scolaire Internationale pour la Paix (International Students' League for Peace) in *La Voie Nouvelle*, its organ, which is run by pacifists under twenty years of age.

In the same issue appears another protest against the militarization of youth, and a peace plan providing for an appeal for an armistice, mediation by the League of Nations, and a plebiscite in Spain.

PEN FRIENDS IN THE U.S.A.

THE correspondent who sent us particulars of the "pen friends for children" scheme, which appeared in last week's PEACE NEWS, writes that an American school-teacher friend of his invites about thirty young people, about ten to fourteen years of age, to correspond with his school.

The letters should be headed "Dear unknown friend" and addressed to Ralph Lovell, School House, Peotone, Illinois, U.S.A., to be handed to appropriate scholars. It is a mixed school and correspondents of both sexes are welcome.

Children wishing to correspond with other countries can do so by sending letters, similarly headed, to "The Children's Caravan" correspondence club, 132 East 65th Street, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

THEY DO CUT SOME ICE!

EVEN shells and bombs have their uses, it seems! Serious flooding due to an unusual ice jam was reported from Riga last week, and artillery and sappers have been trying to free the congestion by shelling and bombing.

TO SPREAD PEACE NEWS A B R O A D

A COMMITTEE, called "International Contacts," the activities of which are intended to supplement efforts at present being made by co-operating organizations in the direction of spreading information in foreign countries of their work here, was formed as a result of a recent meeting of members of Cosmopolis, the International Friendship League, and the Peace Pledge Union.

The idea behind the scheme is that though organizations individually are not able to arrange for representatives to travel to every foreign country with sufficient frequency to maintain adequate contact with sympathizers, collectively this can be done.

Anyone intending to travel abroad is invited to get into touch with the secretary (Mr. E. S. Tew, 4 Fitzroy Street, London, W.1) for details regarding the functioning of the committee.

POET AS PRESIDENT

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, the well-known poet, has been made president of the newly-formed All-India League against War and Fascism.

The committee includes the president and vice-president of the All-India Trade Union Congress, the secretary of the Congress Socialist Party, the president of the All-India Peasant Union, the leaders of the progressive writers' associations, the editors of the *Bombay Chronicle*, the *Madras Daily Express*, *Advance*, and many other papers.

DISARMING FRENCH POLICE FORCE

Another example of how arms goad others into using them has been furnished by the recent riots at Clichy in France.

The Paris Correspondent of *The Times* has referred to evidence "that the dependence on firearms of the Garde Mobile, together with confusion in the transmission of orders from high police officers, was the main cause of the casualties."

M. Blum, the Premier, said during the debate on the subject in the Chamber last week that

"police should be so trained as to prevent individual action of this kind, and modern technical devices must be substituted for firearms."

SERVICE YOU CAN HELP

World-Wide Opportunities

NATURAL interest in problems of Spain makes people overlook the needs and opportunities for service which exist all over the world.

An account of what has been going on in the various fields in which the Society of Friends operates is to be found in the report for 1936 of the work of the Friends Service Council entitled "Unity in diversity."

The Friends Service Council points out that its general funds are always liable to suffer when special claims arise. The booklet can be obtained from Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

Dutch Critic of George Lansbury's Visit to Hitler

DR. H. Polak, senator and one of the foremost labour leaders in Holland, denies in the Dutch Socialist daily *Het Volk* that any good will be accomplished by Mr. Lansbury's visit to Hitler on April 19.

He credits Mr. Lansbury with a burning desire for peace, but calls the attempt to induce the Führer to take the initiative for general disarmament "simpleminded," and refers to Mr. Lansbury as "imagining himself capable of converting Hitler into a pacifist in a tete-a-tete."

It is obvious, however, that Mr. Polak is over-stating the purpose of the visit, which is to show Herr Hitler the folly of plunging the whole world into war.

Mr. Polak wonders whether Mr. Lansbury is ignorant of the fact that "cunning, falsehood, deceit, and concealment of the actual ends are considered by fascists not merely as permissible but even as necessary things."

In this, of course, he ignores the fact that "cunning, falsehood, deceit," and so on, are part of the political system which Mr. Lansbury's method cuts right across, so that the latter is likely to disarm Hitler.

YOU CAN HELP

A correspondent suggests that groups of the P.P.U. should concentrate in silent thought on the object of the visit.

If it could be done simultaneously with the interview, so much the better, but in any case it is suggested it would be a source of tremendous strength.

A Belgian View of the War Mind



From *Le Rouge et Le Noir*, Brussels.

"... There's no way of shaking hands; we should have to let go our arms. . ."

HEADQUARTERS' NOTES AND COMMENTS

By MAX PLOWMAN

96 Regent Street,
W.1.

I SPENT a whole evening recently with Dr. Sheppard. That is an event. At least, for one of us. For, to tell you the truth, I don't think Dr. Sheppard has another evening to spare before the end of October.

We talked about self-righteousness and how very easy it was for the convinced 100 percent pacifist to find himself thinking in terms of his own righteousness and other men's iniquity. To do this is really to cease to be a pacifist in any effective sense, and to become a fanatic instead.

To be of sound mind we need imagination enough to understand quite clearly why pacifism leaves so many people untouched; and to understand another person is never to think of him in terms which are not applicable to oneself. The Peace Pledge, to my thinking, is an act of individual repentance. The sense of a need for repentance should not make anyone self-righteous.

It is the good news of peace and the possibility of its attainment that we have to publish. Let us see to it that we are persuasive because we have something to give, not because we fancy we possess any virtue of any sort.

I have to thank a large number of readers for their generous response to my appeal for voluntary workers, and to explain that I should, perhaps, have made my requisition a little more explicit.

I was thinking more particularly of what we do, and what we shall, require in the way of helpers here at Headquarters, rather than of help all over the country. Not that helpers are not wanted everywhere, or that I shall not hope to make use of every offer, whatever the locality; but H.Q. has its special problems, and some Londoners have time they could give us.

We need voluntary receptionists every day of the week. We shall need typists and shorthand experts who can perhaps give an evening a week. The job is to dovetail their convenience with our needs.

That was why I asked for offers, with qualifications, on half a sheet of notepaper.

"ACROSS YONDER"

(A Mystical Adventure)

A Play in Three Acts by

THEODORA WILSON WILSON

Price 1s. 6d. Net (Postage 2d.)

From: Friends Book Centre

Euston Road, London, N.W.1,

or from the Peace Pledge Union,

96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

Note. The Author will book a

limited number of Dramatic Read-

ings without fee, to P.P.U. Meet-

ings. Collection for P.P.U. Apply

11 Glenilla Road, London, N.W.3

GROUP NOTES

By JOHN BARCLAY

PERHAPS it's the Spring—perhaps only an astonishing growth taking place in every direction—but this week I have had about fifty reports from recent groups, and all say much the same thing:—"We have got on our feet and are getting really active."

I have much to say, but must leave it to be said by the groups.

Wells (Somerset) which has been in existence for little more than a month, reports encouraging progress, and is "launching out" with a big public meeting in the Town Hall on Monday week, when Canon Stuart Morris will be the speaker. Other activities include a display of peace posters on public hoardings and correspondence in the local press.

A good deal of activity is reported by the large number of groups which form a ring round London.

Coulsdon signatories, for instance, are dividing into two "geographical" groups which will meet regularly on different dates, thus allowing some interchange, and will probably hold joint quarterly meetings.

The first public meeting of the Maidenhead branch was held recently. Advance publicity included two poster parades, and a good audience gathered to hear Laurence Housman speak on "The price of peace."

A JOINT CAMPAIGN

A joint campaign has been started by the Golders Green branch, in conjunction with the Society of Friends, Fellowship of Reconciliation, and Women's International League, and at a recent meeting of pacifists and sympathizers in the district resulted in more helpers being "roped in."

Addresses made at the meeting represented the point of view of each of the organizations concerned in the campaign. The P.P.U. in this district is also distributing 10,000 copies of a leaflet containing a reprint of a letter from Mr. George Lansbury published in the *Manchester Guardian* last month.

This is all part of the effort being made to rouse local opinion to protest against the Government's armament programme.

Balham and Tooting is one of the several districts in which debates between P.P.U. supporters and members of the League of Nations Union are taking place. Already some members of the L.N.U. belong to this group, which, by the way, is one of the many which have found the value of having a group library.

The Romford and district group has been doing very well in the way of local press correspondence and comment, while Romford and Hornchurch is considering arranging a

(Continued foot of next column)

The Notice Board

See also Group Notes

Will journalist members in Manchester district communicate PEACE NEWS, please.

Column at disposal of P.P.U. in local paper at Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire. Copy should reach James M. Strachan, 39 Rob Lane, Newton-le-Willows if possible by Tuesday, not later than Thursday first post.

A NEW POLICY FOR THE FOREIGN OFFICE

From a Correspondent

"IS there any way except the pacifist way to prevent war?" asked Bertrand Russell, addressing a well-attended public meeting arranged by the Sydenham branch of the Peace Pledge Union last week.

The theory of collective "security" he dismissed as one that, in the present condition of the world, "would not hold water for two minutes."

Cardinal Wolsey was a very able politician. The Foreign Office, however, had not had a new idea since his time, and Bertrand Russell thought a new idea was due. He suggested the Foreign Office should adopt pacifism for the next 400 years.

The present Government, having realized that collective "security" would not work, had exchanged it for the idea of big armaments. The Roman tag that if you want peace you must prepare for war had hardly proved true for the Romans, who were almost always at war.

Of course we were told the armaments would not be used.

"I have a great aversion to gardening" said Bertrand Russell, "but I have never found it necessary yet to buy a spade in order not to dig!"

"INESCAPABLE"

Laurence Housman, the other speaker, referred to the position of the Church with regard to peace.

It could not see its way clearly because its soul was stained with past sins, such as the use of torture and the toleration of slavery. For Christians the teaching of Christ was inescapable.

Mr. Housman advocated the formation of an "army of service" in which men would be trained to go wherever there was famine or distress or to reclaim waste land, offering their services freely to any country in distress.

(Continued from column 2)

tableau for the Romford Hospitals Carnival in July.

The group covering Brentford, Hounslow, Isleworth, Whitton, and Twickenham, has got out a printed programme of meetings arranged for as far ahead as next July. So large is the area covered by this group that it has been necessary to divide signatories into eleven separate teams.

Ideas for Action

By DAVID SPRECKLEY

THE "man in the street," when he accuses the pacifist of doing nothing but talk, forgets that he himself is guilty of the same crime. Each citizen is a small part of that powerful thing—public opinion; he fills his function as such by just talking, thinking, and living his daily life.

So, in time, will the pacifist fulfil his function—but not until "public opinion" has become pacifist. Now, we are the pioneers, hacking through the cluttering growth of prejudice, tradition, apathy and ignorance that binds men's minds. Pioneering is hard work, calling for sacrifice and hardship. We are evolving a new outlook on life and without any history or customs to help us—we've got to think it out for ourselves. Again I appeal to all pacifists, therefore, to attend every possible team or group meeting so as to talk and think together, thrashing out problems and planning how to live our daily life in the light of pacifism.

We have to deliver a challenge to public opinion and to do this we must act. Pacifism must be yodelled from the roof-tops, practised in the streets, read about in the houses. There is no time to lose. Pacifism must be presented to the "man in the street" again and again in every shape and form—he must see it, hear it and read it wherever he goes. The bells must chime "Think again Whittington, think again." We're pretty ordinary people, yet we've thought this thing out, so there's no reason why "Uncle Tom Cobley and all" shouldn't do so too.

Continuing my suggestions for groups:—

Suggestion 3. Every able-bodied pacifist could join a blood-transfusion roster with very little inconvenience. If there isn't one at the local hospital they will be all the more glad to receive volunteers, and any doctor will furnish particulars. Here is a way for every individual to put pacifism into practice.

Suggestion 4. Selling pamphlets and PEACE NEWS is an essential part of group activity. If groups can organize this so that there is someone standing on a definite spot at a definite time each day, it will have a far greater effect than indiscriminate selling. Only when the seller has become well known on a particular beat, will the public really start buying. I find that two posters, one hung on each pocket, are very necessary. There are some available now at this office, but some new ones are coming out shortly. On my first outing I took a book, thinking it might be dull work. But on the contrary, it is fascinating to watch people's various reactions when they are faced up with a "real live pacifist." The other method is for groups to organize "mass drives" on one evening a week, with large numbers of members selling at the same time. Either method or both. It tells the public that pacifism is alive.

CONCORD

is a strictly vegetarian

Guest House

where pacifists will find congenial company. Non-residents welcome to meals

Mrs. F. E. Morgan, Concord

House, 23 Pembroke Villas,

London, W.11

'Phone: BAY. 0736

N.B. Please send your group news to John Barclay at the Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

Forum For Youth

MY THOUGHTS ON WAR

by a

Pacifist's Young Wife

WHEN this country entered the Great War the people were told that this was a war to end all wars.

At that time no publicity had been given as to the actual state of affairs, and men in their ignorance were urged on by a wave of false patriotism, worked up by uniforms, bands, and the idea that they were going to save their country from disastrous wars of the future.

Youths of sixteen and seventeen were more or less preyed upon by men old enough to be their fathers who told them they were cowards if they did not join up and fight.

Some of the clergy from their various churches preached on the glory of war. Even these men who had undertaken to teach God's love for his people were so carried away that they forgot that Christ said "Love one

another," and many men, convinced by these clergy, whom they looked upon as leaders, did not stop to use their own minds. Thus the war fever spread.

REAL COURAGE

A very few people with intelligent minds who had thought things over had courage enough to stand firm against the jeers of their misled comrades.

In my opinion the men who stood firm and refused to kill, and the women who would not work in arms factories, had far greater courage, whatever they suffered, than those who were so easily led to destruction.

Some of the lucky men who came back, and those who were slightly wounded, still say there is no remedy for war, and if this country should be involved again they would gladly fight.

Yet in the same breath they say they want peace, and tell the younger generation that war is a horrible, filthy business.

If war were to break out suddenly what would any of the different political parties do? We know it will be fought in the air so that while our aggressors were blowing this country to pieces, our air force would be trying to "defend" us by bombing them.

THOUGHTLESS MURDER

Is this self-defence, or is it the thoughtless murder of innocent men, women and children who no more wish for war than we do?

Yet, even in 1937, we are still told we should be forced to assist in such butchery, but haven't we all a free-will of our own? Should we suffer more or less in exercising it?

Thousands of people in this country have joined peace movements and support them wholeheartedly in time of peace. Would all of these people uphold their movement in time of war?

I belong to the Peace Pledge Union, and if the members are like their leader, I think they will.

I hope there won't be any who will be carried away by the same old story brought up to date. Not many in time of war would have courage to face a firing squad, and die without blood of their fellowmen on their hands.

WHAT OF THE WOMEN?

What of the women? Will they too have the same thought as their menfolk, or will they indirectly help by working in

munition factories making poison gases to maim and blind someone else's dear ones and perhaps their own?

Deep down in even the blackest heart is the knowledge that to kill is against the law of God. In my opinion it is far better to die for what you are convinced is right than be led on to murder by the propaganda of war-minded fanatics.

It has often been said that money is the root of all evil. This is true. During the last war great fortunes were made over-night, as you might say. How? Simply because the great body of men who were fighting had to be fed, clothed, and supplied with arms.

The demand for every commodity was so great that the producers were able to ask the highest price and, what is more, they got it. Although they were paid in excess for their goods, the materials and workmanship was of the worst.

ASYLUMS FOR PROFITEERS?

It is time that the Government thought about building a few special asylums instead of aerodromes and bomb shelters, so as to round up all of the fiends who make gases to burn and blind, guns to kill, and bombs to destroy. They would be safe in asylums until they realized all this is wrong.

Does their conscience ever prick them? When they see a beautiful child can't they yet visualize that, if this mad arms race continues, that mite and thousands more will be killed, blinded, burnt, and mutilated? Do such horrible people ever think there's a God, or do they only worship money?

I read an article on war films by a man I admire. He said they encourage many youngsters to become war-minded.

In Germany they take recruits to see these "glory" films, where a handsome hero fights his way through a fierce battle, and blows up this and that. Of course he wins his way through and in the end gets several medals, then takes the beautiful young heroine for a wife. Naturally, in pictures, all's well that ends well.

But supposing we had the grim reality shown on the films. The hero would be a man, not as he was created, but with his left eye and ear blown away, an ugly gash for a mouth, and perhaps minus one arm. As for many of his comrades, they would not have any faces at all.

How would this go with the public? Men would feel utterly sick, women would faint, children would scream. All this is war.

But, of course, no such thing would be filmed. Why? Because it's bad for recruiting.

A PERVERSION OF HUMAN NATURE —That's War

From Our Own Correspondent

"WAR is perverted human nature, and it reverses the law of biology, for in war the best stocks are destroyed and the least fit are left to breed a continually degenerating nation," said Dr. E. Vipont Brown at a meeting in Friends' Meeting House, Warrington, last week.

If strength and brutality had been the chief factors making for survival, he said, the dinosaur and the sabre-toothed tiger would today be in man's place as lords of creation.

Those who spoke of survival of the fittest were loosely using a phrase which its originator, Thomas Huxley, himself came to realize was an insufficient explanation of the facts of evolution, for he said there were moral and other values of which biology must take notice.

Primitive man was a gregarious animal. Happy and contented he shared the proceeds of hunting or collecting. It was when man first learned to cultivate the fields, probably in Egypt, that private property became an institution, and it was the acquisition and defence of property which led to war.

All religions recognized the sacredness of personality. Human nature was essentially good; it was God's masterpiece and woe betide man if he attempt to fashion it otherwise.

WE DIDN'T SAY IT

"Animal lovers are starting a crusade to abolish the use of the horse in warfare. So now all we need is that lovers of men shall start a crusade too."

Punch.

In the next war they will not want a lot of space in newspapers, but merely one first-class liar on the air.

Hannen Swaffer.

You cannot limit warfare. It is obvious that some nations at least, with their backs to the wall in war—what ever pledges have been given—will use any weapons that are to hand.

"Big Ben" of the Sheffield Daily Independent.

We are not entitled to make any promises to intervene in Eastern Europe unless we have conscription in this country.

Lord Lothian.

Here's The Answer

Argument. Even admitting that we were originally wrong in seizing colonial territories, continued control is now our moral responsibility to save them from worse.

A PART from the doubtfulness of the assumption that control by any other country would be worse, this argument, like so many of its kind, begs the question by taking for granted that a policy of right is bound to have no effect whatever in the direction of changing the policies that are not right. But—again like others that are full of assumptions—this argument jumps to the conclusion that the only alternative is a sort of slipshod application of right in one detail of policy without regard to the rest.

Thus it is imagined that those who would abandon our colonies would simply hand them over to some other imperialist Power—under the cloak, to be sure, of a mandate system that has so far differed little from the colonial system. But the pacifist goes to the heart of things and seeks a way out that shall serve the purpose both of the existence in the world of the material riches of the territory and of the lives of its inhabitants. Colonial territories should therefore be controlled in such a way—internationally if necessary—as shall ensure that all who need its material wealth shall have really equal access to it and that its people shall have the fullest opportunity for development along their own lines.

Peace News

Editorial Office:

59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11

Tel: Enterprise 1888

Subscription Rates:

Quarterly: 2s. 8½d. post free

Yearly: 10s. 2d. „ „

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union
Taking the Constructive Pacifist Position, but
providing news, information and an open forum
Serving all who are working for Peace

April 3, 1937

A PRACTICAL Policy

WAS it significant that April 1 was the zero hour for a final reply from Japan as to whether she would be willing to agree to a limitation of naval guns to 14 inches? The pathetic spectacle of a world desperately basing its hopes of peace on the gracious willingness of one country to kill people with only 14-inch guns instead of 16-inch certainly suggests something appropriate about the date.

Yet it is no fooling matter. Not because we take the view of *The Times*—voicing that of most people who believe in arms but shrink from the inevitable conclusion of a policy of arms—that “the resumption of qualitative naval competition in which the only limit is the sky” is a sort of irresistible force set in motion automatically by a word (or lack of it!) from Japan. Rather because the whole business shows how perilously futile is the idea of **controlling** a policy based on arms.

The whole point of faith in arms is that it MUST carry you step by step, inexorably along its path to its awful goal. The peace movement no less than the avowed advocates of an arms policy, has, for the most part, been deplorably blind to this fact. It has regarded arms as a kind of unsightly, even dangerous, rubbish heap which must be kept within “reasonable” bounds by not adding more if not actually shovelling some away. But they are “simply” the outward manifestation of the inward fear and distrust that guides and controls foreign (and home, for that matter, all too often) policy. And since distrust strengthens its like in others, its expression **must**, soon or late, get more and more marked, till it ends in war itself—as generally understood (for it is time we understood the whole process as being war).

That is why complete disarmament is so much more practical than futile attempts—called “disarmament by agreement,” and not to be confused with “gentlemen’s” agreements to save money on arms—to regulate the instruments of distrust. And, because of its very nature, a complete break with a policy requiring arms must also be independent of the agreement or otherwise of other countries. **But there is no reason to suppose that trust will be any less productive of its kind than is distrust. On the contrary, it has, time and time again, proved to be equally “catching,” if not more so (since there is in any case a desire in men for peace) when it has been sincerely tried by men “with clean hands.”**

The Makings of the War Mind

ITS CAUSE AND CURE—1

system with which it has remained for centuries in close alliance.

by

LAURENCE HOUSMAN

BY the war mind, I mean the mind which still accepts and believes in war. I do not mean minds of a jingoistic or bloodthirsty tendency, but merely minds which continue to accept war as a prevention of greater evil, and even to some extent as a remedy for evil.

That is still the state of mind of the vast majority both in this and other countries; and it may be worth while to attempt to analyze the ingredients which go to the make-up of a mentality so ordinary, which pacifists believe to threaten disaster and ruin to life and civilization.

I would be inclined to class these ingredients under the following main headings:—**Religion, convention, lack of thought, lack of imagination, self-righteousness, and sentimentality.**

LET us take first religion. Religion in the world’s history has been the root cause of wars as horrible, as unjust, and as disastrous as any that can be named, and from this indictment the Christian religion cannot be exempted.

Christianity in a historical sense stands deeply committed to war. The instrument of war has found acceptance throughout the whole history of Christianity except during the first three centuries, when the Christian Church definitely repudiated war, kept clean from it, was persecuted, with a view to its extirpation, by the strongest temporal power in the world, and yet survived.

But from the time of the establishment of Christianity as the State religion by Constantine the Great, war entered into the Christian system, was first tolerated and then blessed by the Church; and as a consequence entered into the blood of Christendom, an infection which the Church now finds it hard, and sometimes seems even reluctant, to eliminate.

The fact that the Church, under supposed divine guidance, gave its blessing to the Crusades and other wars makes repudiation difficult. Even if that were not so, the linking of the Church with temporal power, its acceptance of power politics as consistent with Christianity, make repudiation not merely a moral difficulty, but socially embarrassing as well.

The development of State power, advancing itself by rivalry and the competition of nation against nation from strength to strength, in States which call themselves Christian, has landed the Church in a bloody entanglement from which it now cannot extricate itself without also repudiating as non-Christian that State

WHEN, at the time of the Reformation, Christianity divided itself between Catholic and Protestant, new ground for Christian sanction to war was provided. In repudiating the authority of the Catholic Church as infallible in faith and morals, protestantism substituted an infallible book, in which, throughout the earlier historical portions, divine sanction was directly given to war and wholesale massacre; and the insistence that the God of the Old Testament was one and the same with the God of the New went far to obscure the revolutionary implications of Christ’s revelation of God as the common Father of all, and His assertion that the whole of the law and the prophets was summed up in the teaching “Whatever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do unto them.”

The attempt to reconcile incompatibles was made, and still is made, by the suggestion that the Sermon on the Mount was a counsel of perfection applicable only to individuals, and having no application to the State as represented by Caesar. That attitude of mind was sufficiently well summed up in the protest of the late Lord Brentford: “For God’s sake, don’t mix up religion and politics!”

But more and more the awakened consciences of men are beginning to see that the two cannot be separated, and that those who think that politics can be separated from religion do not know what true religion means. But though religion as a soporific for men’s consciences in regard to the compatibility of war with the mind of Christ is beginning to lose its hold, there has not yet been found a solution of the very real practical difficulty that the system which civilization has universally accepted is inevitably productive of war.

The majority of people find it easier to root out of their lives acceptance of the dogmatic forms of religion than to root out those elements in the social and State system in which we live which make for war; and we have, as a consequence, the spectacle of bishops and archbishops of the Church of England, who, because they are unwilling to repudiate the social system in which they hold their positions of power and authority, assume too readily that that State system has the blessing and approval of God. That it is compatible with the teaching of Christ, and that whatever

is found necessary for the maintenance of that system must therefore also have God’s blessing and approval. It is on these lines of thought that the Archbishop of Canterbury declares that “the sword is the ministry of God for the protection of the people,” and that, as against an aggressor, war has Christ’s blessing.

THE question of how far, in a world of rival States which in the past have built up their power on rivalry and aggression, the aggressive spirit can be eliminated from any nation that has power so based, is left conveniently vague, under the pleasant phrase “Defence of the People.” That defence means today not only defence against actual invasion, but defence of vested interests, far-reaching imperial power, and advantages and inequalities which we jealously defend as ours by right today, irrespective of how we came by them.

The difficulty of defining an aggressor, even in the letter, has been a very real problem since the formation of the League of Nations, and has not yet been satisfactorily solved. But in a world where more and more it has become evident that the causes of war lie largely in the inequality with which the resources and riches of the world have been divided up by past conquests, the question of what truly is an aggressor State in any dispute arising between the “haves” and the “have nots” is a difficult one to solve.

But it is inevitable that so long as the Church accepts the system of State power, of rivalry between nations, and of inequality of possession as compatible with true Christianity, she is also faced with the difficulty of making the moral repudiation of war which is essential if the Church is to be brought back to a true following of the teaching of Christ.

SOME ten or twelve years ago the bishops and archbishops at the Lambeth Conference declared war to be “incompatible with the mind of Christ.”

Unfortunately they have gone back upon that decision, and have of recent years shown themselves ready to become recruiting assistants to the Minister of War in his attempts to lure the young men of this country into enlistment and acceptance of a form of war which has become no affair of “the sword” (which is the Archbishop’s pretty phrase for it) but stark massacre of helpless populations, men, women, and children.

Mr. Baldwin has stated the case very straightforwardly and honestly. “In future,” he warns us, “there is no

(Continued foot of column 1, page 7)

Join the

PEACE PLEDGE UNION

Copy out on a post-card this pledge:—

I renounce war and I will never support or sanction another.

Sign your name and address and send it to:—

THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION
96 Regent Street, W.1
who will be pleased to answer any questions

Must We Go Back to the Cave?

DANGER OF A NEW "ICE AGE" OF BARBARISM

ARE we to be driven to hide ourselves in caves and 'gas-proof' rooms by a new ice age of our own barbarism?" This question, which has been asked by the Peace Committee of London Friends, is one that must occur to many people as they see the effect on the public mind of air raid measures.

Various peace bodies have lately exposed the inefficiency of the present "precautions," but the pacifist attitude depends not on the efficiency or otherwise of the Government's proposals, but on their wrongfulness. **However effective they are, the attempt to drill people in what is undoubtedly a step toward conscription would still lead to catastrophe.**

Some pacifists have already been faced with this problem personally, as doctors, nurses, public officials, and citizens in districts where the preparations are far advanced. With others it cannot be long delayed.

In this connexion the following facts are worth consideration.

LECTURER'S EVASIONS

From Our Own Correspondents

CAPTAIN RAWLINS was the speaker at a recent meeting arranged by the Manchester authorities, and in a pleasant, disarming voice said people were not to think that a gas attack was by any means imminent. The Government, however, felt it was necessary to make preparations in case of "trouble."

The chief point was to remember to guard against panic.

On being questioned, the lecturer admitted that the respirators were not yet effective against "smokes," but

(Continued from page 6)

defence except in counter attack." He bids us be sure that the air-bomber will get through all defences, and that our only effective defence will be to massacre the women and children of our opponent more quickly and in larger numbers than they can massacre ours.

Is that a course of action to which Christians can commit themselves, believing it to be compatible with acceptance of the teaching of Christ?

I cannot help wishing that the Archbishop had used a more honest word about it; we should then know better where he stands with regard to the Herodian tradition of the massacre of the innocents brought up to date.

(Laurence Housman will write again in an early issue of PEACE NEWS.)

said the Government had the problem well in hand. A reminder that Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd had stated that the respirators were 100 percent effective against all known gases was ignored and the question of children was evaded.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

From another "precautions" lecture, organized by the Woolwich Chamber of Commerce, it seemed that for an expenditure of next to nothing one could make oneself secure from bombs costing many pounds each!

Meanwhile a strike on the part of local authorities is holding up further work on local schemes for "precautions" until it has been settled who shall "foot the bill." A request has been sent to the Home Secretary that all expenditure on such schemes should be borne by the Government.

PACIFIST PAMPHLETS

State Housekeeping.
Is There no Better Way?
Fear, The Dictator.
The Laws of Peace.
Two Cigarettes for Peace.
Sanctions Junction, Change Here for Peace.
Pacifist's ABC.
The Great "If."
The above can be obtained from the author, A. Ruth Fry, Thorpeness, Suffolk.
Price 1d. each.
Larger quantities at reduced prices.

DISARMAMENT DOESN'T MEAN MORE DANGER

Opponents Hear Pacifist Case

By a PEACE NEWS Representative

A DENUNCIATION of a "defensive" policy as stupid and insane was made by Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier at a public meeting of the Peace Pledge Union at Guildford last week.

The way to peace, he continued, was through a strong League of Nations without the backing of force.

A special appeal to women to protest against armament propaganda and to urge the spending of the money in maternity and other services to make the future safe for the children was made by Vera Brittain.

RESTORE "OPEN DOOR"

Economist on Empire Problems

THE belief that the closing of the "open door" in those parts of the dependent Empire where we were not pledged to close it, by international agreement, was a profound mistake was expressed by Mr. H. V. Hodson who spoke on the British Empire in the last of a series of lectures on "The economic problem and world peace" at Essex Hall, London last week.

The inarticulate natives of those countries, he said, might not approve of closing the door. Ceylon had strongly opposed the system that barred them from buying in the cheapest market, and other countries who could not express their opinions might feel the same.

He asked that the policy of the "open door" should be restored, at least for members of the League of Nations, for the part of the colonial empire which we held in trust.

British countries should abolish restrictions on output. This was most vicious when applied to the primary necessities of life.

Lord Lothian, who was unable to preside, wrote a letter in which he said:—

"The nations of the British Commonwealth, like the other nations of the world, are approaching a crisis. Obviously if every national or colonial unit claims the right not only to full autonomy but to arm and to make itself economically as self-supporting as possible, there is no hope either for the peace or the prosperity of mankind."

Premier's Reply to Freer Trade Plea

NO LOW TARIFF GROUP

A REPLY from the Prime Minister which has been described as "not such as we would have hoped for, though possibly it was more than we would have expected" was received by the delegation representing the 400 signatories to the recent national memorial on "Peace and economic cooperation" which met Mr. Baldwin last week.

A statement handed to the delegation by the Premier, who was accompanied by Mr. Eden and Mr. Runciman, said that the Government attached the greatest importance to the development of international trade, but that action to remove the main obstacle would have to be taken by other governments since there were no exchange controls in the United Kingdom, while the only quota restriction on industrial goods was on iron and steel.

Existing tariffs had been imposed to "prevent the increase of unemployment and to protect the standard of living in this country."

As to the suggestion with regard to the formation of a low tariff group, the Government considered this to be open to two fundamental objections—discrimination against non-participating countries and the fact that experience showed that practical results were not likely to be achieved.

RAW MATERIALS

Turning to questions of colonies and raw materials, the statement expressed the Government's intention to give "careful and sympathetic consideration" to the conclusions of the League inquiry into access to raw materials.

The Government objected to the "open door" policy in dependent territories for several reasons, including the fact that it "would impede their progress toward self-government by limiting their authority in fiscal matters."

The objection to the proposal to apply a strengthened mandate system to colonial territories was that it "would not be welcomed by the inhabitants of the dependencies themselves" and would prejudice somewhat the authority of Parliament and of local legislatures.

Conference for Teachers

A conference on "Children and Christian pacifism" for teachers and those who are interested in the education of children has been arranged by the Fellowship of Reconciliation for April 24 in King's Weigh House, Church Halls, Thomas Street, London, W.1.

Particulars of the conference, which will be divided into two sections, "Spiritual teaching in the day and Sunday schools" and "The relation between teacher and taught. Discipline," may be obtained from Beatrice C. M. Brown, 165, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

R. M. HOLBROW suggests

SOME IDEAS FOR "UNOFFICIAL" BROADCASTS

TWO boys in a Canadian school qualified for corporal punishment.

The sentence, duly administered in the privacy of the headmaster's study (according to regulations which forbade publicity) was broadcast to the entire school. Unknown to the learned cane-wielder and to his victims, the school's private broadcasting system had been left "open" and 500 pupils were aural witnesses of their comrades' discomfiture.

The press report of this unofficial broadcast gave no account of the boys' reactions as they listened to the sounds of spanking. Many times had the familiar voice of the "head" boomed forth from the microphone, but it is safe to guess that never before had the boys listened so attentively as on this occasion, when the voice of authority was stilled while his actions spoke louder than ever his words had done.

IF SUMMER COMES—

Have You Posters for Open-Air Meetings?

The following eighteen posters are now obtainable from the Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1. The double crown size (thirty inches by twenty inches) is 2d., and the single crown size (twenty inches by fifteen) is 1d.

Those printed in **bold** below are only obtainable in double crown size.

1. War. Prevention is the only cure. Join the Peace Pledge Union.

2. **"The bomber will always get through" (Mr. Baldwin). Are bombers "defensive weapons"?**

3. "Defending" this country only means attacking another.

4. The time for argument is past. Join the P.P.U.

5. **Rearmament is for retaliation, and this solves nothing.**

6. Don't be misled by the word "Defence."

7. **Rearmament means industrial conscription for War.**

8. Pacifism—the practical alternative to war.

9. Read: "The Complete Pacifist."

10. Read: "What are you going to do about it?"

11. Neither side wins a war.

12. Pacifism is a practical policy.

13. Mass murder is no defence of liberty.

14. Pacifism is defence without destruction.

15. Pacifism—an ideal and a method.

16. You can't get peace by going to war.

17. **You can't preserve peace by preparing for war.**

18. **Today: An armed truce: Tomorrow: Real peace through pacifism.**

A reproduction of one of these will appear in next week's issue to show the style, as they are all uniform.

Two more posters of the "Working for Peace?" series have been issued by the Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds.

THING TO REMEMBER

There was no Lionel Secombe to deliver a slap-by-slap running commentary nor a John Snagge to time the strokes ("In, out, in, out. . .") but as an actuality broadcast with realistic sound effects the incident, despite its crude presentation, and perhaps because of its unexpectedness and spontaneity, must have been memorable to those listening boys.

Did it deter them from future wrong-doing or instil into their minds a desire for revenge? Or did the boys, being normal, healthy youngsters (I hope) enjoy the whole performance as rather a good joke, a welcome diversion from lessons?

I will leave the psychologists to conjecture the probable mental effects of the broadcasting of such violent measures and some readers, perhaps, will draw pacifist morals from the episode.

In this age of planned, organized, censored, blue-pencilled, rehearsed, revised, regulation-bound, conventionalized broadcasting I find it refreshing to hear of a completely unintended item slipping over, even though the favoured auditors were only schoolboys.

PLEA FOR FREEDOM

I picture them cherishing all their lives the memory of that dramatic interlude when the microphone was unfettered. Such an occasion may never occur again.

How often, when we listen to broadcasters carefully reading from scripts their "spontaneous" conversations and debates, do we not sigh for a little more freedom and naturalness. Even when verbal censorship is lifted

What War Means

COMPLAINT was made at the meeting of the Welsh Committee of the National Farmers Union in London that contractors on Government works in Wales were denuding Welsh farms of their hired labour.

we may feel sure that the hand which removes the gag is never far distant to point a warning finger.

Sometimes a gate-crasher has managed to ripple the smooth waters of BBC programme arrangements by interjecting some irrelevant slogan and there have been occasions when a speaker or performer has departed, deliberately or inadvertently, from his script, with results that have caused consternation at Broadcasting House; but such incidents are rare. The BBC armour against such attacks on its prerogative is almost fool-proof.

Oh for a roving microphone that could overhear for our benefit, without the participants' awareness, some of the many incidents which, like the Canadian boys' caning, are not usually favoured with the megaphone of publicity!

For instance, the comments of the unemployed on the proposed coronation gift of 2s. 6d. (for every 12s. 6d. for decorations) and a means test interview, not omitting subsequent remarks of the victims, would bring revelation to some of the more comfortable among us.

But perhaps such things are better left to our imagination.

Recent Publications

Birth of a New Social Order?

DIGGING TEAMS. The Times Publishing Co., Printing House Square, London, E.C.4.

WHILE governments waste valuable time talking about schemes for the alleviation of distress, thoughtful men are quietly but efficiently getting on with the job.

This pamphlet is a reprint from *The Times* of two special articles giving personal experience of work camps. The members of the teams live as paying guests in unemployed homes, sharing their ordinary food.

In the daytime they work on the allotments or small-holdings of sick, aged, or disabled men. In the evenings there are sing-songs and discussions in the homes.

The "back to the land" idea has been put forward many times as a part solution of unemployment. In view of this it is interesting to note that appeals were made to the members of a work camp for a chance to get on to five-acre holdings or any intermediate scheme, there to recover the peasant life from which many of them were only a generation or two removed.

Working among their less fortunate brothers the members of these camps are able to understand the problems which confront the poorer class, and thereby to understand the people themselves better.

THE WAY FORWARD?

It seems to me that it will be in this way that the social revolution will come, through the unstinted work of those who are willing to sacrifice a little for the advancement of our common humanity.

These camps not only work at home but also abroad. It cannot be over-emphasized that they are an excellent means of building peace, positively and constructively.

The international work of these groups was described in an article

which appeared in the September 5 issue of *PEACE NEWS*, but further particulars may also be had from The Work Camp Clearing House, Woodbrooke, Selly Oak, Birmingham. S.V.F.S.

INTERNATIONAL CONCILIATION. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 405 West 117th Street, New York City. 5 cents.

This month's issue of *International Conciliation* contains the proceedings of the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace held at Buenos Aires in December, 1936.

The speeches of Augustin P. Justo of Argentina, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Cordell Hull are recorded in full, followed by the texts of treaties, acts, and resolutions adopted by the Conference.

The book *Save the Children* (referred to in *PEACE NEWS* on February 20) which comprises documents presented to the delegates of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Arms, was published in 1932 by the Save the Children International Union, and is priced at 3s.

A copy may be bought from the Friends Book Centre, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

THE POWER OF AN IDEA

"YOU have no right to luxuriate. If you are Christian men, you should go into your neighbour's house and start a public opinion, and rouse and educate the masses. One soul with an idea outweighs 99 men moved only by interests.

"Though there are powerful obstacles in our pathway, they will be permeated by the idea we advocate, as was Caesar's palace by the weeds nurtured by an Italian summer. It was supposed that nothing less than an earthquake could disturb the solid walls, but the tiny weeds of an Italian summer struck roots between them, and tossed the huge blocks of granite into shapeless ruins.

"So must inevitably our ideas—the only living forces—for a while overawed by marble and gold, and iron and organization, heave all to ruin and rebuild on a finer model."—Wendell Phillips, in *Christianity a Reality, not a Dream*.

A plan which, had we the courage to adopt it, would make an end of war, is

A BIRMINGHAM PEACE PLAN
by HARRISON BARROW,
LELLA S. FLORENCE, and
WILFRED WELLOCK.

Price 2½d., post free, from
The Blackfriars Press, Ltd.,
Smith-Dorrien Road, Leicester.
Reduced prices for quantities.

PACIFISTS MUST KNOW THE GALLOWS
is an expression of fear, hatred and despair—the raw material of war. Every inroad on the cruelty strengthens mass resistance to the mass brutalities which threaten. Pacifists should therefore actively support abolition of the death penalty. Particulars and free literature can be had from The Secretary,
National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty
Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1

PEACE PLEDGE UNION PUBLICATIONS

GROUP TRAINING. Richard Gregg. 6d.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? The Case for Constructive Peace. Aldous Huxley. 3d.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? Aims and Basis of Active Pacifism. 3d.

AN OPEN LETTER. Rose Macaulay. 3d.

THE COMPLETE PACIFIST. Ronald Duncan. 3d.

IS PACIFISM SCIENTIFIC OR SENTIMENTAL? 2d.

THE PACIFIST BELIEVES. 1d.
SHOULD A CHRISTIAN FIGHT? 1d.

100,000 SAY NO! Aldous Huxley and "Dick" Sheppard talk about Pacifism. 1d.

SANCTIONS. Aldous Huxley. 1d.
PACIFISM AND CIVIL WAR. Aldous Huxley. 1d.

MEMORANDUM ON THE AVOIDANCE OF VIOLENCE IN THE CONTROL OF INSANITY. 1d.

There are also a number of free leaflets obtainable, together with the above, from

96 Regent Street, London, W.1.
(Telephone: REGENT 2843-4)

Do You Know—

WHEN 69 EQUALS
A QUARTER
OF A MILLION?

SIXTY-NINE people in Great Britain and Ireland had incomes last year aggregating £11,485,300—the equivalent of a year's unemployment benefit for more than a quarter of a million single men.

The number of millionaires last year increased by 49—which is quite a relief as the number has been falling for some years! There were, moreover, 2,030 more people with annual incomes exceeding £2,000 than during the previous year.

In the £75,000 to £100,000 class the number rose from fifty to sixty.

P.P.U. Regional
Secretaries

CROYDON REGION

F. J. Sharpe, 34 Littleheath Road, Selsdon, Surrey.

HERTFORDSHIRE

Will Braw, junior, 85 Hand-side Lane, Welwyn Garden City.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

J. Way, The Limes, Downfield, Stroud.

MANCHESTER REGION

H. Leslie Kirkley, 20 Charnwood Road, Baxted Park, Gately, Manchester.

READING REGION

W. Goodson, 56 De Beauvoir Road, Reading, Berkshire.

STAFFORDSHIRE

H. Clipstone, 38 The Oval, Stafford.

SUFFOLK

Rev. R. C. R. Godfrey, 70 Christ Church Street, Ipswich, Suffolk.

WESSEX PEACE COUNCIL

Mrs. Tanner, The Cottage, Lyncombe Vale, Bath, Somerset.

Plan for Discussion—3

HOW CAN ONE
“LIVE PACIFISM”?

THE final subject in the discussion programme for study groups which was given in PEACE NEWS for March 13 is: **Can one practise pacifism in one's daily life?**

The following points are suggested for consideration under this heading:—

1. Do you agree with Fenner Brockway's statement that “the pacifist must be judged not by the purity of his principles, but by the degree to which he lessens by his contribution to life, the amount of violence and bloodshed in the world”?

2. Is it right to take part in and to encourage air raid drill for civilians?

3. Is it right to continue to pay income tax, or that part of it which goes to war preparations? (See “Here's the Answer” in PEACE NEWS for March 20.) Ought we to reduce our incomes below the taxable level?

4. How deeply are we involved in the social system, and is it possible to act in a way that is wholly good?

BAPTISTS REPLY
TO THE BISHOP
OF LONDON

ARE pacifists the chief danger to the peace of the world today? The Bishop of London's assertion that they are has provided the subject for a competition in the *Baptist Times*, which invited its readers to reply to the charge.

The winner of the first prize, the Rev. A. E. Calow, of Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, declares that pacifism is positive, and that the Bishop's own way forward to world peace (through the creation of an international force) is unsound from the point of view of psychology, practicability, and Christianity.

Psychologically, he points out, the Bishop's proposals “cultivate belief in war, and therefore endanger peace.”

“JUST WAR” ASSUMPTION

Their impracticability, too, has the same effect, while they also “assume there can be a ‘just war’ with an international force in the right and an enemy in the wrong.”

The Rev. A. E. Calow again disagrees with the Bishop on the Christian issue, asserting that his proposals for world peace through force “range the Christian Church on the side of war which the same Church has declared to be incompatible with the mind of Christ.”

“This,” he says, “makes the real triumph of Christian missions impossible. As Baptists, we believe in the worth of personality, and thus of democracy. The proposals underrate

both and pave the way for dictatorship.”

Having thus demolished the Bishop of London's proposals the Rev. A. E. Calow states the pacifist case. “Even a negative pacifism,” he insists, “which by protest urged the finding of a better way, would be a lead toward peace. But Christian pacifism is positive, and sound from the point of view of psychology, practice, and Christianity.”

The second prize-winner is Mrs. Kathleen Ware, of Tresco, Dracaena Avenue, Falmouth, who considers the Bishop's statement to be based on an incomplete understanding of what pacifism means, and reminds him that pacifists “do not merely renounce war as a means of settling disputes, they suggest that it is possible to employ peaceful methods.”

“APPALLING MENACE”

The *Baptist Times* also records a statement issued by the Council of the Baptist Union viewing “with deepest concern the rearmament of the world in which the British Government has felt compelled to take so prominent a part,” and regarding “the reorganization of the life of the peoples on a war basis as an appalling and imminent menace to world peace.”

The council begs the Government “to reaffirm its adherence to the principle of a League of Nations for the purposes of reducing armaments, maintaining peace, and developing and applying international law, and to spare no effort to establish effectively a system of world peace.”

MUSICAL JUGGLERY
in

“Doktor Faust”

By HEDLEY SMART

THE first performance in England of Busoni's *Doktor Faust* took place at the Queen's Hall on Wednesday, March 17. Sir Adrian Boult conducted. Mr. Parry Jones sang Mephistopheles, and Mr. Dennis Noble wrestled gamely with Faust.

The fact is, Busoni's style is as unfitted to grand opera as that of Delius. The difficulty of striking the right interval, with a consequent necessity to think hard about the technicalities of their craft, caused most of the singers to miss points of characterization.

I admired their fortitude. I was never moved by them; and the whole performance was seldom much more than calculated music-making—intricate but not inspired, often full of sound and fury but signifying very little.

Doktor Faust will need to be heard more than once before its worth can be justly assessed.

The orchestra and choir worked well, and Sir Adrian Boult moulded the performance on solid efficient lines. But my dominant impression of *Doktor Faust* is of musical jugglery rather than human vitality. And that last will surely be its ultimate test.

DRAMA
NOTES

by
JOHN
ATHEY

SEVERAL groups of the Peace Pledge Union are including a dramatic section among their activities. The latest of these is Hampstead, with a dramatic group of 70 members, who aim at presenting plays in various large halls.

I understand that there may be P.P.U. representatives in the Festival of the Pax Players. I shall be pleased to receive news of other groups and offer them the services of this column for the publicity of their efforts.

EXCELLENT VENTURE

The Anglo-German Academic Bureau, encouraged by the success of the English Theatre in Berlin, recently produced Schiller's play *Mary Stuart*, in London, on four successive nights.

The company was composed mainly of young German and English amateurs, most of them being students, reinforced by two German professional players. The title part of *Mary Queen of Scots* was played by Fraulein Gefion Helmke, of the Munich Theatre.

This is an excellent venture in promoting international friendship through the medium of the theatre.

CORRECTION

I have received a letter from Mrs. Horner of Pax Players, in correction of the report in the issue of PEACE NEWS for March 13, of *The Dragon's Teeth* presented at the Watford Trade Union Hall. She mentions that this play had been previously presented, immediately on publication, at the Fortune Theatre, London and, in November, 1934, by the Reading branch of the Pax Players.

This latter production was an astounding success. Reading's largest hall was filled for three consecutive nights and huge numbers of people were turned away.

Two and a half columns were devoted to a report in the press and there was nearly a page of pictures. The branch had made their own scenery and costumes, which were highly commended.

The authoress, Miss Shirland Quin, made a special trip to be at the dress rehearsal and first performance.

The play had also been performed, prior to publication over here, in the U.S.A. with great success.

Mrs. Horner also mentioned that, as the Pax Players is purely a voluntary organization, it would help considerably if groups, when writing for particulars of plays, would enclose stamps for a reply.

What Can I Do For Peace?

READ

“YOUTH CAN STOP WAR”

By Arthur H. Bird

Foreword by Dr. D. Soper, M.A.

1s. 2d.

Post free from Author
LIME TREE GROVE, THORNE, DONCASTER

"Dear Sir....."

Letters to the Editor should be as short as possible and written on one side of the paper only. Owing to pressure on space we reserve the right to publish extracts from letters.

Correspondents must send their names and addresses, though not necessarily for publication.

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARLIAMENT

I am manager of a works, and in past years have acted as manager for other firms in Burma and Malaya—and I find there is always this particular problem involved:—

Men are ready and eager to assume positions of authority but, when the matter of "responsibility" arises for any mistaken activity, there is generally a tendency to shirk the issue.

At the present time would it not be of value to the cause of peace to insist on this particular understanding—namely that, "if war comes, Parliament and Parliament alone is responsible"?

That body of men has been given authority by the rest of the country to formulate laws, and attend to the true interests of the country in general; ought it not to be clearly understood that this body of men—individually and collectively—is responsible, if war comes, and for the death of every man, woman and child that may result?

It is the handling of events by Parliament which will either produce war as its ultimate issue, or maintain peace. The usual procedure seems to be, if Parliament mishandles a situation, to appeal to the country, and then emotions and prejudices are so aroused that a particular response is a foregone conclusion.

In this way the country is cajoled into assuming the responsibility, and those who have set the seeds shift the blame for the harvest on to other shoulders.

HOWARD SMITH.

Holm Garth, Triangle,
Near Halifax, Yorkshire.

SENTENCED

It is felt by a great number of thoughtful people that the sentence passed upon Hugh Phillips the 18-year-old Leeds undergraduate is too rigorous and protests are being made throughout the country.

I suggest that all members of the P.P.U. should send a card to the Home Secretary protesting against this injustice.

F. RUSSELL RALPHS.

48 Cobnar Road,
Sheffield 8.

TO STUDY PROBLEMS OF PEACE

It is proposed to start a "Peace Problems Study Group," which will meet in central London once a fortnight. Will those interested kindly communicate with me?

HAR DAYAL.

34 Churchill Road,
Edgware.

LET'S DO THE EASY THINGS FIRST!

MAX PLOWMAN calls for volunteers for unspecified duties which he suggests may be arduous.

David R. Spreckley issues a challenge to action and indicates that sacrifices are necessary.

In contrast to their inspiring trumpet calls to battle this letter will sound like the piping of a tin whistle.

I want to ask all members of the P.P.U. to do something simple and easy, something that calls for little or no sacrifice, yet something that **nine out of ten of us fail to do.**

While we are girding up our loins for strenuous peace work and grimly determining to go to the pictures once a week instead of twice, let us make sure that we have not omitted any of those preliminaries which entail no concentrated mental effort, no summoning up of will power, no self-denial.

Surely one of the first actions of a P.P.U.-ite should be to give regular support to his own newspaper? Work for peace should not stop at buying PEACE NEWS every week but there's no harm in it beginning there. It doesn't with nine out of ten of us.

Isn't it cheek on our part to ask non-members to buy our paper when most of us don't bother to buy it ourselves? Let us put our house in order.

You who read these words are doubtless a regular reader. Why not make it your business to see that every other member of your branch follows suit? Point out to the dilatory ones that they really cannot afford to go on missing such an excellent twopennyworth and ask them to imagine what the editor could do with a circulation of one hundred thousand.

May I borrow a trumpet just to sound forth this slogan:

On to the First Hundred Thousand!

Thank you.

14 Ribblesdale Road,
Hornsey, N.8.

This is an entirely unsolicited letter.—Ed.

R. M. HOLBROW.

THE GREAT ARMS RACE

Can the devil save the world from war? At first sight this may appear to be a very strange question to ask, and almost a ridiculous one. Nevertheless it ought to be quite permissible at the present time when we have decided to expend the amazing sum of £1,500,000,000 on rearmament.

Are we not inciting other nations to rival us in this great armageddon armament race, which ultimately may be wrecking this poor benighted world with far ghastlier horrors and chaotic devastations than ever before? The devil is a past-master in his sophistry and cunningly devised beguilements.

We have good reason to remember the Great War, which was so alluringly presented to us as "a war to end war," and also to create for us "a land fit for heroes to live in." Where is this promised land to-day?

War can never end war, for war is an eternal mother . . . one war begets another, and there is no end to her children. Yet there is a possibility that the next great war may end war forever in quite an unexpected way.

The flowers may still bloom and the birds sing, but the sun will shine upon countless human graves. It has been said that if we sup with the devil we must have a long spoon.

The question arises as to why we should sup with the devil at all. Can-

not we exchange our battleships for friendships, and our bombing planes and poison gases for a little altruistic good will and true Christian justice?

Then no more vast sums will be required for our armaments and air raid precautions. Surely it is worthy of some consideration; but will it pay? Only the devil himself dares to answer "No!"

HENRY HAMMOND.

"Hill Crest,"
Ashford Avenue,
Hornsey, N.8.

Bible May Be Illegal!

When the time comes that our Government is preparing for, will our militant Bishops and Archbishops from their favoured place in the House of Lords move that for the period of the war all sacred books should be collected and destroyed?

I ask this to prevent some poor printer or publisher suffering unknowingly from breaking the law. For about 6.30 p.m. on June 29, 1916 the representative of the War Office in the House of Commons said:—

"If the Sermon on the Mount, or any other portion of any other sacred book were used for the deliberate purpose of preventing men from enlisting or accepting enlistment that would be a military offence. . . You are not entitled to use an extract from a sacred book to break any law passed by the House."

If the heads of the Church will thus act it may help us to show them in their true colours.

JOHN HART.

Enfield.

"G.L.'s" VISIT TO HITLER

I am sure that we all welcome Mr. Brown's suggestion that every pacifist should send Uncle George Lansbury a post card with our good wishes for the success of his talk with Herr Hitler. George Lansbury knows that he has us behind him, but does Herr Hitler know?

I feel it would be still more useful if we all sent Herr Hitler a card wishing him success in furthering the cause of real peace, and thanking him for meeting George Lansbury.

For those of us who do not know German perhaps you could publish the correct German wording of such a message. If Herr Hitler does not see our cards lots of German postal employees will.

L. A. V. ABLEY.

24 Constance Road,
Whitton,
Twickenham.

Fill in this form to secure yet

★ another reader! ★

To the Publishers of PEACE NEWS

59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11

Please send PEACE NEWS to

..... at

for *three months, six months, one year, as a present from

for which I enclose *2s. 8½d., 5s. 5d., 10s. 2d.

*Strike out those which do not apply

Late Letters

A CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH

PROGRESSIVE opinion in Britain is unanimously in favour of drastic changes in social legislation toward making life more supportable for young people.

Neither the Government's Education Act nor its proposed Factory Act takes into account the real needs of youth today. The recent public discussion of the laws relating to juvenile delinquency reveal serious disagreement with present tendencies. The proposed extended athletic facilities can be criticized for taking no account of the problems of malnutrition and long working hours, and their effect upon the physique of youth.

The conditions of youth on the land in Britain are so shocking that the number of young people employed in agriculture has fallen by 33.8 percent in twelve years, and a national industry is faced with ruin through lack of skilled labour; while nearly half of the conventions drawn up by the International Labour Organization remain unratified by Britain, leaving our social legislation in many respects far behind that of other countries.

Consequently, the British Youth Peace Assembly, representing a large section of organized British youth, is to launch at its conference in Manchester, April 23 to 25, a Charter of Youth Rights, with six headings:—Youth in Industry, Youth and Unemployment, Youth on the Land, Health, Malnutrition and Sport, Education, and Juvenile Delinquency.

It is hoped to rouse the country by a national campaign to make legal the provisions of the charter, and the active support of your readers will be welcome. The enforcement of the terms of this charter would do much to create a contented youth in Britain, thus undermining all militarist preparations.

J. E. de COURCY IRELAND.
Vice-Chairman, Manchester and District Youth Peace Council.
21 Rectory Road,
Crumpsall, Manchester, 8.

THE "KICK" OUT OF WAR PREPARATION

(Continued from page 1, column 3)

(Mr. Stokes informs us that an offer was made and that no indemnity against loss was asked for.)

PACIFIST BUT—

Like George Lansbury, whom he admires, Mr. Stokes, who served throughout the War, believes that war would be unnecessary if the nations could talk together and solve their economic differences. But he considers the absolute pacifist position impractical.

"I am a practical pacifist," he declared. "I will do everything I can to stop war, and I will never take part in a foreign adventure. However, if I saw my own friends and women being slaughtered I should probably take a crack at the other chap."

He added that in the case of this country's being involved in an aggressive war he hoped he would be a conscientious objector and go to Dartmoor.

"It takes more guts not to

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN BRIEF

ABYSSINIA

That "tomorrow we may be the object, or victim, of the methods we have allowed, by acquiescence, to become permissible" was a warning contained in a letter to *The Times* on March 23 signed by the Archbishop of York, Lord Cecil, Sir Norman Angell, Mr. C. R. Attlee, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. H. G. Wells and others.

They described the Addis Ababa reprisals as "unspeakably cruel" and a "menace to white rule in Africa and to the future of Christian civilization."

It was reported on March 30 that as a result of recent events commerce between Abyssinia and the outside world was at a standstill.

CANADA

The decision of the Government to form a Mounted Police Reserve was announced in Ottawa on March 23. The move was attributed to a desire to have available reserve forces for coping with possible labour troubles spreading from the United States.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dr. Krofta, the Foreign Minister, in a speech reported on March 30, appealed to all sections for loyalty to the State. He reaffirmed his desire for lasting good relations with Germany.

FRANCE

The Clichy riots were debated at some length in the Chamber on March 23. M. Blum appealed to all parties to observe a political truce during the Paris Exhibition.

GERMANY

The Pope's strongly worded condemnation of the systematic breaches of the Concordat aroused consternation in official quarters. Not a word of it was allowed to get into print.

According to reports of March 22 indications are that exception will be taken to the charge of persecution and a revised agreement is suggested.

Changes at the German Foreign Office announced on March 24 included the appointment of Herr von Mackensen, Minister in Budapest, to be Secretary of State.

ITALY

Signor Mussolini delivered a militant speech on March 23 when he condemned the hysteria of Anglican pulpits and warned his hearers to "Remember and prepare."

This speech, together with the Addis Ababa reprisals and the refusal of Italy to withdraw volunteers from Spain have heightened the Anglo-Italian crisis.

JAPAN

It was officially denied in Tokyo on March 25 that Japan was preparing to build two warships of 40,000 or 50,000 tons. Plans were not yet fixed.

Japan's refusal to restrict the calibres of big naval guns to 14in. was communicated to the British Ambassador on March 27.

That this decision may lead to a new race in naval armaments was feared in London.

POLAND

The Polish Foreign Office issued a communiqué on March 26 in which concern was expressed for the rights of the Polish minority in Danzig. Protest was made against discrimination suffered by Poles in the Free City and hopes were expressed that Polish rights would be respected.

TANGIER

Disturbances were reported on March 26 in Tangier, a permanently neutralized and demilitarized zone, when Italian sailors clashed with Spanish newspaper and telegraph officials.

U.S.A.

Reports from New York of March 29 indicate that the Navy Department will probably adhere to the old London Naval Treaty of 1930, which expired at the beginning of this year, and thus remain aloof from any naval race so long as this can be done without forfeiting her present naval strength in relation to that of other powers.

It was considered, however, that the Japanese insistence on bigger guns would mean the same by the United States navy.

U.S.S.R.

Uncompromising hostility to Trotskyism was declared by Stalin in a speech published on March 28. He accused Germany and Japan of working hand in hand with the Trotskyist organization.

YUGOSLAVIA

Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, arrived in Belgrade on March 25 to confer with the Prime Minister, Dr. Stoyadinovitch. It was reported that political as well as economic accord had been reached.

India

CONSTITUTIONAL CHECK ON GOVERNMENT

IN all six provinces of India where Congress has a clear majority the party has declined office, following a refusal of each Governor to give the desired assurance (which the Government of India Act prevents his giving) that he would not set aside the advice of his ministers in regard to their constitutional activities.

The provinces are: Bihar, Bombay, Central Provinces, Madras, Orissa, and United Provinces. Members of other parties were invited by the Governors to form ministries in readiness for Thursday when the new constitution came into force.

Hostile demonstrations in Calcutta led to the arrest on March 28 of Mr. H. K. Bose and sixteen other members of the Congress Party.

Parliament

"Cannot Get Peace by Armaments"

—Sir A. Sinclair.

ANTI-WAR APPEAL BRINGS VOTES

"We must adjust our patriotism to the just rights and claims of other countries," declared Sir Archibald Sinclair, leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party, when speaking in support of Mr. R. Borlase Matthews, the Liberal candidate, at a dramatic eve-of-poll meeting at Tonbridge last week.

He said that there could only be peace while the people of the world were working together for the common good.

"You will not get peace by armaments. You will not get peace until you remove the causes of war!" continued Sir Archibald.

Later in the evening, Mrs. Matthews, the wife of the candidate, declared: "We women know that Christianity is practical politics. . . Sin will be punished—and the rearmament loan is a grievous sin."

Although Mr. Borlase Matthews was heavily defeated, he polled more votes and his two opponents polled less, than the corresponding candidates in the 1935 election.

BY-ELECTIONS

Tonbridge and Farnham returned Government members but in the by-election for the Combined Universities there was a notable gain from the Government by Mr. T. Edmund Harvey's election as an Independent Progressive by a majority of 1,644, on the policy, as reported in PEACE NEWS for March 20, of the "Next Five Years" Group, as set out in their "Programme of priorities."

FEN FLOODS

An appeal that the drainage of the Fens should be regarded as a national question was made by several members in the Commons last week.

AIR ESTIMATES

Trivial points such as discontent about the system of promotion and what was called "feminine influence" in the Royal Air Force were raised in the report stage of the Air Estimates Bill in the Commons last week.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Recommendations for safeguarding expenditure on contracts given out under the "defence" programme are made by the Select Committee on Estimates in their report which was published last week.

FASCIST INVASIONS

On the motion for the adjournment protests were voiced against the recent massacres in Addis Ababa and the "foreign invasion" in Spain.

A demand was made that both subjects should be referred to the League, but the Government would not take the initiative and said that the latter was a matter for the Spanish Government.

Please Order Your
PEACE NEWS
EARLY

YOU can help PEACE NEWS if you . . .

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Peace News

April 3, 1937

ORDERS for PEACE NEWS

received later than
first post on the Wednesday
before publication date
cannot be **GUARANTEED**
(though every endeavour will be made to meet them)

Please give your order **EARLY**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

1d. per word, minimum 1s.

Box number 6d. extra

DRAMATIC

CAN YOU ACT? Use your talent for peace by joining the International Pax Players Association. Non-sectarian, non-political. Particulars from Mrs. E. Eunice Horner, 48 Arlington Street, London, N.1.

YE KING'S STONE PRESS, 20a Lower Teddington Road, Kingston-on-Thames. If you are interested in peace read *MOLOCH* by Winifred Carter, 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d. by post).

"Most affecting. It depicts the agony of war in the home and in the heart of a mother." *Daily Sketch*.

HEALTH TREATMENT

MISS J. D. WALLINGTON, health practitioner, osteopath, bonesetter, treats all conditions of ill-health by natural methods; particularly successful with nerve and digestive cases. Consultations by appointment. 1 Ashley Place, S.W.1 (near Victoria Station). Victoria 0131. Residential telephone, Weald (Kent) 53.

ILLUMINATED ADDRESSES

ALBUMS, SCROLLS, &c., from 1 guinea to 100 guineas. Battley Brothers Ltd., Printers and Publishers, The Queensgate Press, Clapham Park, S.W.4.

LITERARY

THE PACIFIST PLAY OF 1937

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK

By H. Allan Smith & W. A. Rathkey

one hour—prose and verse

Performing rights £2 2s. P.P.U. members £1 1s

Particulars from
6 Caveadish Road, Brondesbury, N.W.6

MEETINGS

"SI VIS PACEM PARA PACEM" **"LIBERTY AND FRATERNITY"** **"ACTA NON VERBA"**

Addresses given on above subjects Sundays, 11 a.m., Lindsey Hall, Notting Hill Gate. All welcome.

Subject, April 11, "Gas masks are so unbecoming."

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION (London Union). A Fellowship Hour, for communion with God and each other, led by Rev. Alan Balding, is being held the third Monday in each month from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., at 165 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

Notting Hill Gate Group, P.P.U.

Wednesday, April 14 at 8 p.m.

Concord House, 23 Pembridge Villas
Notting Hill Gate

J. Allen Skinner

formerly chairman No More War Movement, on

The P.P.U. and IMPERIALISM

Open to all. Questions welcomed

Buses 27, 28, 31, 46 pass the door

POSTERS

PEACE POSTERS for the times. Samples on application to the Secretary, Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds.

EIGHTEEN NEW POSTERS (words only) now available. Double crown size 2d., and some also crown size 1d. List of captions on application. P.P.U., 96 Regent Street, W.1.

POSTER BOARDS for poster parades and pamphlet sellers: double crown 2s. each. Crown (ladies' size) 1s. each. Obtainable from Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

WHERE TO STAY

DELIGHTFUL 16th CENTURY FARMHOUSE in Sussex is open as a guest-house to those desiring restful and health-giving holidays. Suitable for conferences or retreats. Profits are used to provide holidays for London slum-dwellers.

Write to Mrs. J. A. Corke, Micklegate Farm, Nuthurst, near Horsham, Sussex.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS.—Vegetarian Food Reform Guest House. Alt. 600ft. For happy holiday or restful recuperation. Increased accommodation. Central heating throughout; h. and c. water in all bedrooms. Central for conferences.—A. & K. S. Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, near Matlock. Tel.: Ambergate 44. Station, Ambergate (L.M.S.)

BUNGALOWS (FURNISHED). Minute water's edge. From £2 according dates. State number party. Nature's Way, Beach, Shoreham, Sussex. Stamp.

DIARY OF THE WEEK

April

4 (Sun.) 3 p.m. Methodist Hall, Gunnersbury Lane, **ACTON HILL**; John Barclay at Acton Hill Men's Fireside.

3.30 p.m. Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, **WESTMINSTER**; Mrs. Joyce Pollard (who has just returned from Palestine) on "Peace Making—and Palestine"; Guildhouse Fellowship.

5 (Mon.) 7.30 p.m. Central Hall, **WESTMINSTER**; meeting of clergy and laity to protest against Church Assembly's decisions on war to be addressed by Dr. H. R. L. Sheppard, Rev. Father Andrew, Canon S. D. Morris, Archdeacon of Stoke, and Rev. C. Paul Gliddon; to be followed by procession.

8 p.m. Congregational Church, **BEXLEYHEATH**; annual general meeting of Bexleyheath and district branch of P.P.U.

8 p.m. Methodist Hall, Cambridge Road, **NEW MALDEN**; Mr. T. Southall on "Patriotism and Pacifism"; P.P.U.

8 p.m. Llewellyn Hall, Llewellyn Street, **BERMONDSEY**; John Barclay on "Should a Christian fight?"; Y.C.C.

8.15 p.m. Spicer Hall, Buxton Road, **NORTH CHINGFORD**; public meeting to be addressed by Rev. R. Sorensen; P.P.U.

6 (Tues.) 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Frodsham Street, **CHESTER**; inaugural meeting of P.P.U.

7.30 p.m. Cooperative Stores Hall, King Street, **OLDHAM**; public meeting to be addressed by Laurence Housman, Helen Byles Ford, and Mr. Grindle; P.P.U.

8 p.m. King's Weigh House, club entrance, Thomas Street (opposite Selfridge's), **LONDON, W.1**; group leaders' meeting (postponed from last week); P.P.U.

8 (Thurs.) 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, **LEIGH-ON-SEA**; Czech student on the internal situation of Central Europe; P.P.U.

7.30 p.m. C.W.G. Guild Room, **PATCHAM**; Frank Hancock on "Why I am a pacifist"; Cooperative Women's Guild.

8 p.m. Girardier Cafe, 281 Wilmslow Road, **RUSHOLME**; Mr. T. Ainley on "Collective Security"; South Manchester Anti-War Group and the Withington Adult School.

9 (Fri.) 8 p.m. Beattie's Cafe, **WOLVERHAMPTON**; Geoffrey Mander on "A practical peace policy"; P.P.U.

10 (Sat.) 3.30 p.m. King's Weigh House, Church Hall, Thomas Street, **LONDON, W.1**; Rev. Leslie Artingstall on "First principles and their applications";

6 p.m. Members' business meeting;

7.30 p.m. Rev. William Dick on "The church and the community in the light of Christ's redemptive purpose"; F.O.R., London Union.

MORE PROTESTS AGAINST AIR RAID "PRECAUTIONS"

An opportunity for protesting against air raid "precautions" was provided by a meeting at **Loughton** arranged by the Loughton Ratepayers' Association.

The complete futility of trying to protect the civilian population was stressed by many pacifists who attended the meeting.

Another sound point was that if there was another war it is probable that every man, able-bodied or no, would be snapped up to fight, and there would be nobody to care about the "precautions." One speaker condemned the whole "ramp" and scare-mongering business and said that the gas masks provided by the Government were useless.

Considerable publicity was given to the protests in the local press.

A NEW MENTALITY

An appeal to women to do all in their power to create a new mentality in regard to war was made by Miss Vera Brittain at a meeting in **Doncaster** last week.

How could women say in these critical days that politics did not concern them? They had the responsibility of training a new generation in the methods of peace and goodness.

Was our Empire worth the price another war would mean? There was less to fear in countries like Holland,

Sweden, and Denmark, and children could be produced without apprehension. But women in this country refused to have children for gun-fodder.

Defence was talked of merely to lull the people into a false sense of security.

All wars end round the table so it was better to settle things there first than after a welter of blood, said Canon Morris in **London** last week.

He said that God was calling on the Church not to talk in terms of political expediency but to build peace.

A declaration that the pacifist was the only realist connected with the whole subject of international peace was made by the Rev. A. McCosh at **Stirling** last week.

"CONSTRUCTIVE PEACEMAKING"

Today and tomorrow are the last days of a conference on "Constructive Peacemaking" arranged by the Irish Christian Council at Friends' Meeting House, Frederick Street, **Belfast**.

Lectures are being given by Canon Raven, Marie Luise Moll, the Rev. F. B. Rea, and the Rev. Paul Rangar-ananujam.

Published by "Peace News" Ltd., 96 Regent Street, London, W.1, (editorial and publishing offices, 59 Waterfall Road, New Southgate, N.11) and printed for them by Baines & Scarsbrook, Ltd. (T.U.), 75 Fairfax Road, London, N.W.6

PLEASE HAND THIS TO YOUR NEWSAGENT

To M.....
(Newsagent's name)

Please deliver PEACE NEWS to me weekly.

Name.....

Address.....

as from issue dated.....

Note to Newsagent.—PEACE NEWS is published weekly as a national newspaper at the retail price of 2d. It is obtainable by your wholesaler at the usual rates from the Publishers, at 59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11 (Tel: Enterprise 1888).